

TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION, 1100.

Friday, the 14th August, 1925.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

The Council re-assembled in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven-thirty four of the Clock, the President presiding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Withdrawal of eight-seater motor cars from public use.

133. MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastivarman*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state what led to a sudden withdrawal from public use of almost all eight-seater service cars towards the end of Edavam, 1100?

(b) Was it due to any misconduct on the part of the service car-owners and drivers detected by the police all on a sudden?

(c) Are there not other means of punishing the offender without removing the cars from the public use, thereby seriously hitting the general travelling public?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) The temporary withdrawal of nine-seater buses from public use towards the end of Edavam, 1100, was due to the strike organised by the Travancore Motor Union as a protest against the cancellation of certain 'G' permits by the Commissioner of Police for misuse of such permits.

(b) The member is referred to the answer to part (a).

(c) The Commissioner of Police adopted this course, which appeared to him to be fit and proper in the circumstances.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): Are the Government aware that the withdrawal of the permits for the misconduct of the drivers will inconvenience the public to a considerable extent, and that the punishment of the drivers would be a better mode of punishment?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): This is a matter in which the Commissioner of Police is quite competent to take the necessary action, and he has made the arrangements which seemed to him best under the circumstances. He suspended only two or three buses; but, it is reported that there was a strike, and it is in consequence of the strike that some public inconvenience was caused.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): What I want to know is whether Government think that it is not better to punish the drivers for their misconduct instead of withdrawing the cars from public service.

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government are not aware of the particular breach of rules that these bus-owners were guilty of, and, therefore, they are not in a position to say what sort of punishment should be awarded.

Result of the English School Final Examination in 1925.

134. **MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Ambalapuzha*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the results of the last English School Final Examination so far as Travancore is concerned?

(b) If so, how do the results compare with those of the previous years?

(c) Is it a fact that the proficiency of candidates, as judged by the examination results in History and allied subjects, is quite unsatisfactory and much below the mark?

(d) How many candidates failed to secure the requisite number of marks in Translation?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) Yes.

(b) The percentages of applicants for the Travancore S. L. C. Examination declared eligible for admission to University courses of study are:—

1921	35.6
1922	41.9
1923	46.8
1924	42.5
1925	35.1

(c) Of 1,322 candidates in 1925 who took History of India or History of Great Britain and Ireland as optional subjects, 237 or 18 per cent. secured eligible certificates. Of the 1,085 candidates who failed to get